

# Press Release



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## ***National Weather Service Program at Cross Ranch State Park***

John Paul Martin from the National Weather Service will be presenting a program entitled "Weather, Whether You Want it or Not" at Cross Ranch State Park on Saturday, July 30. The program will start at 7 p.m. and will take place at the park's amphitheater.

Martin was born and raised in Nanticoke, Pennsylvania where he became interested in weather at an early age. When he grew older, he earned his BS in Meteorology from Penn State University in 1990. Then, he started an internship with the NWS in Williston, ND and was promoted to Forecaster in 1994 at the Bismarck, ND office. In 2002, Martin was promoted again and became the Warning Coordination Meteorologist (WCM) for the National Weather Service (NWS) out of Bismarck; the position he currently holds. This year, John Paul Martin celebrated 15 years of federal service working for the National Weather Service.

He comments that his job duties can be compared to that of an ambassador. He often collaborates between other NWS offices and is a contact person for the general public, private meteorologists and the National Weather Services' customers and partners.

The program will cover general observing, forecasting and weather safety. Thunderstorms, tornadoes, hail, and high wind will be discussed as well as how RADAR works and why reports of severe weather are critical to the NWS and its mission. Don't miss your chance to meet thunder and lightning as you get caught up in the storm at Cross Ranch State Park!

For more information, call 701-794-3731 or check out [www.ndparks.com](http://www.ndparks.com) as all interpretive programs are posted on the website. Cross Ranch State Park is located 35 miles north of Bismarck, near Washburn along the Missouri River.